

From: Chris Menzel
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/11/01 12:28am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

Please note that Section III(J)(2) of the Proposed Final Judgement potentially plays right into Microsoft's hands. It says that Microsoft needn't share its APIs and communication protocols affecting authentication and authorization to companies that don't meet criteria for a being a business that are ESTABLISHED BY MICROSOFT itself. Microsoft might well try to use this clause to torpedo its central threats, namely, the flagship products of the Open Source free software movement that created the Apache web server that dominates the internet -- and which Microsoft would dearly love to supplant with its own buggy, high-priced, and insecure web server -- the ubiquitous programming language perl, the Linux operating system (the most serious competitor to Windows), and samba (a program for enabling Windows clients to see a Linux server as a Windows server).

Please ensure that this clause is revised in such a way as to ensure that sophisticated, secure, high-quality free software will continue to be a vibrant alternative to Microsoft products for all computer users.

Thank you.

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